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of the flue; *e* the melting-pot, placed in a hole in the iron cap *f*. This cap has a raised margin to retain any metal that may drop, and below is fitted well on to the brickwork. As this cap becomes hot, tiles *g g g* may be laid under the hands of the workmen; an iron fuel-box *h*, with a cover *i*, is mounted in the surrounding wall *j*; it has a spout extending to the fireplace, through which the fuel is poked into the fire.

No. XII.

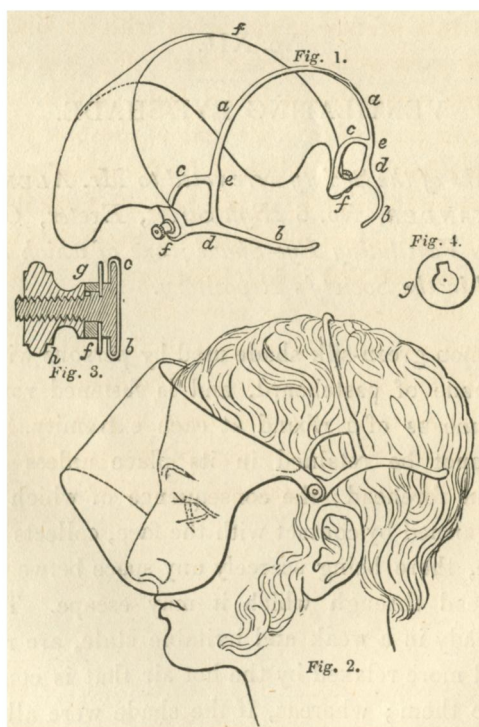
VENTILATING EYE-SHADE.

The Thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. ALEXANDER ALEXANDER, No. 6 High Street, Exeter, Optician, for his Ventilating Eye-Shade; one of which has been placed in the Society's Repository.

THE common green-silk shade used by persons with weak eyes is made of pasteboard, and is fastened round the head by means of a riband at each extremity. Such a shade cannot be retained in its place unless it press against the forehead; the consequence of which is, that the air, warmed by contact with the face, collects beneath the shade, there being scarcely any space between it and the forehead through which it may escape. Thus the eyes, already in a weak and irritable state, are rendered worse and more relaxed by the hot air that is continually applied to them; whereas, if the shade were allowed to

project clear from the forehead, there would be a continual draft through the vacant space, and the eyes would have the benefit not only of shade, but also of coolness. This is effected in Mr. Alexander's eye-shade, the support of which is a very light springy frame, which gently grasps the head in so convenient a manner, that the weight of the shade will not alter its position.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the shade. Fig. 2 represents it as worn on the head. The shade does not touch the head any where, and it only touches the supporting frame at two opposite points just above the ears. At these places there are screws with binding nuts, that



fix the shade in any position. The places of these screws are such, that whether the shade is lowered quite before the face, or raised out of the way quite over the head, it will not touch either the head or face in any part, and therefore never checks or interferes with the natural perspiration, and is never soiled by wearing.

aa is the bow of the frame, it goes over the head. *bb*, two side arms; the parts *b* and *c* are one piece, the bow *a* being rivetted to them at *d* and *e*. The lower margin of the shade is wire, but the upper margin *f* is a bow of thin steel; its two ends, *ff*, are perforated to be put on the side screws, which are furnished with nuts to bind it tight.

Fig. 3 is a section of one screw with its binding nut, and all the parts as bound together. Fig. 4 is one of the collets: the screw has a broad base, which is rivetted to the lower part of *bc*; the end of the bow *f* is placed against this base, and followed by the collet *g*, and then bound fast by the nut *h*; a pin projects from the side of the screw, and enters the recess of the collet shewn in fig. 4, to prevent that collet from turning round; thus loosening the nuts will not move the shade, but allows it to be moved, and the weight of the shade can have no effect in loosening the nuts. The holes in the bow *f* have similar recesses, to enable them to pass the pin when put on or taken off. Every part of the springing support that touches the head, is covered with silk.